

## \*\*\* For Immediate Release \*\*\*

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## **Are You Prepared for Memorial Day Traffic?**

**Wenatchee, WA** – Memorial Day is considered the kick-off to summer and with it comes heavy traffic over Snoqualmie Pass and Steven's Pass. By preparing now, you can make your trip more enjoyable.

- Don't travel during peak travel times.
- Make sure your vehicle is in good working condition.
- Have a full tank of gas before heading out.
- Ensure your tires are properly inflated, with good traction.
- Have extra water and snacks for possible delays.

The Washington State Patrol has prepared by allocating additional Troopers to those peak traffic areas, during peak traffic times.

Troopers will be focused on removing impaired drivers from the highways. 65 impaired drivers have been arrested in North Central Washington (District 6) since May 1<sup>st</sup>. Do not drink and drive and arrange for a sober driver before consuming alcohol. Impaired driving is a leading cause of traffic fatalities across the State. The Washington State Patrol supports Target Zero, which aims to reduce traffic related fatalities and serious injury collision to zero by 2030. There is no acceptable number of fatality collisions in Washington State.

Troopers will also be focusing on distracted driving violations. Distracted driving is the leading cause of traffic fatalities among teen drivers across the nation. Troopers will be looking for drivers talking on their cell phones or texting.

Drivers are reminded to slow down, watch their following distance and avoid unsafe lane changes. These violations greatly increase the likelihood of a collision, which will restrict the flow of traffic, preventing travelers from getting to their destination in a timely manner.

Seat belts save lives. Click it or ticket.

Please be patient and allow extra travel time this Memorial Day weekend. The Washington State Patrol wants you to have a fun, but safe holiday weekend.